

The Times.

THE TIMES COMPANY

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1897.

RADICALISM AND UPHEAVAL NOW

THE WORDS.

That aesthetic and kid glove Democrat, Mr. George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, gave out a pronouncement the day after the recent election that is worth a moment's attention. It has already been printed in our columns, but it is worth printing again. It is as follows:

"My views upon yesterday's election in Massachusetts are that radicalism under the Democratic name has been strengthened somewhat in its position, and emboldened in its course, and will continue in the field a growing quantity, to be reckoned with in the near future. The lines are obviously hardening as between Republican conservatism and the Democratic policy of change and upheaval, and between the two no room will evidently be found for building up a leading opposition to Republicanism.

"What he here said of Massachusetts applies with even greater force to the rest of the country. The results there and in Massachusetts ought to be decisive of the insignificance of what is called the Gold Democratic vote. The farce has ended in Kentucky, and it ought to be clear to the little handful in Massachusetts that there is no future possibility of the maintenance of an organization at the hands of the Democratic party for these gentlemen."

There are two points in this statement that will interest Virginia Democrats we feel sure.

The first is that Democrats are no longer to be known as Democrats, but as Radicals.

Heretofore the Virginia Democrat has called Republicans indifferently, Radicals or Republicans, but under the new order of Democracy proposed by Mr. Williams the tables are to be turned and we are to invite the Republicans to call us indifferently Democrats or Radicals. We are to be Democrats, to be sure, of the French Revolution order of Democracy. We are to be Sans-Culotes, and Robespierre and Fouquier-Linville are to be our legendary saints. That is something for our Virginia Democrats to know. It is well they should be informed that that is the Democracy to which the compound of Altgeldism and Bryanism is carrying them.

The second point for consideration is that Democracy is done with conservatism in name as well as in fact. The old order is to go wherever it exists and it is to be supplanted by a "policy of change and upheaval."

Truly it is well that a party which is to adopt this as its creed should call itself the devotees of Radicalism. It will undoubtedly be the Radical party, and the professors of the new Democratic faith should be taken at their own word and held up to the people as Radicals who propose to "upheave and change" everything and produce a general state of "grab," where the strongest will get what they can while the weaker get left.

Vive! George Fred Williams, Radicalism and Upheaval!

THE BOSS REBUKED.

It is necessarily a source of regret that the fine Democratic party of Maryland has been so disorganized that Maryland, a long time esteemed the banner State of Democracy, has passed into the Republican column, though we hope with the Democratic party under a different leadership it will not remain there long. But deeply as Maryland's loss to Democracy is to be deplored, there is one compensation and one great compensation for it. She is relieved of the appalling curse which her political boss, Gorman, brought upon her, and the Democracy of the nation will be freed of his blighting influence also. He retires now to that ignominious oblivion that is the fate of all such men as he who rely upon corrupt practices for their power and influence, and who have lost their grip. Warned by the degrading and demoralizing use he made of power, when he had it, all Maryland will unite to prevent him from ever re-establishing his control there again. The result in Maryland is a striking testimonial to the power of two influences in our modern politics, the independent newspaper that always tells the truth and wishes only to have simple justice done, and the independent voter. In Virginia and the other Southern States the people are denied the full benefit of these two influences because of the dark shadow of

the negro vote always lying across their path. But in Maryland and in the Northern and Western States this political and social blight is missing and the independent newspaper and the independent voter are displaying their power more and more at each election.

It is not too much to say that Gorman's overthrow and Maryland's happy rideance on him, are due to the Baltimore Sun.

For five or six years, this independent and influential paper has devoted itself day in and day out to exposing the dark methods and wicked machinations of this Arch Boss, until it had made the people of the State understand perfectly how he was abusing their confidence and plundering them on every hand by the most degrading and demoralizing influences of ring rule and base politics. That information having been thoroughly disseminated amongst the people by the Sun, the independent voter came into the arena and played his part unmistakably and with full effect, and now Maryland is relieved of a curse, little, if any, less blighting than that which New York city suffered when Boss Tweed had his foot on her neck.

Governor Russell had been engaged since he went into office in denouncing the "robber corporations" and one day was caught with his pockets full of railroad passes. He had been denouncing these "robber corporations" as defiant of the rights of the people and the law of the land. But when the grand jury indicted the "robbers" for issuing passes to state officials contrary to law, it turned out that the Governor was parties to it.

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There is a moral in the Maryland election that all of the bosses would do well to bear in mind. They may establish themselves in power for a time, but the independent newspaper and the independent voter will attend to their case in time just so surely as that they undertake criminals.

Our free institutions are the greatest blessing that mankind can have and their strength lies in the fact that we have an unmuzzled daily press to tell the people whatever takes place.

WHENCE MR. BRYAN'S COMFORT?

We have been waiting for fuller returns to see where Mr. Bryan has found so much comfort and encouragement in this late election.

Surely his comfort does not come from New York, where Tammany won without Mr. Bryan's platform, aid, or sympathy.

It does not come from Maryland, where the Republicans and independents have beaten Gorman and Gormanism.

It does not come from Kansas, lately the hot bed of free silver and Populism, which shows up with large Republican gains.

It does not come from Iowa, the home of Uncle Horace Boles, which gives Shaw sixteen thousand more votes than the highest Republican candidate for Governor had received.

It does not come from Nebraska, Mr. Bryan's own State, which, in spite of his vigorous canvass, returned a decreased plurality for the fusion candidates.

The fact is the farmers of the West have seen it practically demonstrated that Mr. Bryan's pet theory about wheat and silver is nothing but theory, and has been knocked sky-high by dollar wheat and a forty-cent silver dollar.

There is no comfort to the silverites in the late election. There is, however, encouragement, and much encouragement to those who believe that if the Democratic party will only discard free silver and Populism the forces of Democracy will be reunited, and will march with banners to victory in 1900.

THE VALUE OF CHEAP POWER

A writer in the Atlantic Journal declares that the great need of that city is cheap power, and seriously recommends that the municipality issue bonds and erect a giant electric plant, from which power will be sold at low cost to small industries.

In answer to a subscriber, we would say that Senator Morgan is not dead by any means. He is probably just training to new guns on Blanco.

Watka, the Creek Indian base-ball player, who returned to his tribe to be killed, is being greatly lauded. A sacrifice hit, so to speak.

It will be useful to "ask your druggist" for Seth Low brand of reform, for the manufacture of it has been temporarily suspended.

Croker says "Van Wyk will carry out every promise," and Croker will be right there to see that he does.

The Times cannot forbear to acknowledge the many compliments extended yesterday on its complete account of the unfortunate wreck.

Notwithstanding the popularity of the bicycle nearly everybody feels at this season that the horse should have a show.

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A DEAD ISSUE.

We are glad to see the Richmond Times admit that the issue between the gold standard and bimetallism is at last clearly drawn. The subterfuge of international bimetallism is now no more, and the gold bugs must stand on the gold standard, pure and simple. It will require considerable readjustment on the part of many so-called gold men before they can argue for the gold standard straight—Salem Sentinel.

The Times believes firmly in "the gold standard straight," and believes that free coinage would bring disaster to this country. But we believe in meeting the issue squarely without dodging or equivocation. We have never believed that there was the slightest hope of "international bimetallism," and have time and again denounced the whole business as a miserable pretence and a subterfuge.

We believe that the question should be decided on its merits, and we would see every voter face the music like a man. We have had no patience with those who believed in the gold standard, but were afraid to say so, and relegated the question of free coinage to "international agreement."

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Senator Marion Butler's Caucasian says: "The Richmond Times, a rank gold bug, commenting upon Governor Russell's statement to the effect that though he had accepted courtesy of the railroads, that had pushed them on him, that yet he was opposed to free passes and would use all his power to enforce the law and root out this sin, says that his opinion is a great deal more decent than for a railroad to then stand in with it." This statement of the Richmond Times has been copied by the Wilmington Messenger and a number of other railroad organs in this State with approval. We wish to thank these railroad organs for throwing light on this question. It is important to know that they think that when a man accepts a railroad pass that he ought to then "stand in with" the railroads and do their bidding, regardless of justice or the interest of the public. We see now the real grievance which these railroad organs have against Governor Russell. If he had accepted the courtesy of the railroads, and then sacrificed the interests of the State to serve these roads, as Governor Carr did, he would have been a great man and a patriot in their eyes. Governor Russell's real crime, in their estimation, is in refusing to be influenced by passes and standing true to the people.

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